



News and Events in the 5th Grade

May 7, 2012

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Important Dates

May 9	Field Trip to Robert Crown
May 10	IAAT test
May 10	Body System Paper Due
May 14	Transition Picnic at Taylor Park
May 15	Eye dissection
May 16 & 23	MAP Testing
May 17	Social Studies Interview Project Due
May 22	Body System Project Due
May 24	Million Dollar Project due
May 30	Pool Outing

Dear Families,

We have many events and deadlines in the last month of school. Please be sure to get in your permission slips for Robert Crown and the Transition Picnic as soon as possible. In order to create a slide show for our Completion Ceremony, our parent volunteers will need a baby picture of your child (preferably two years old or younger). Please send these in to your homeroom teacher this week.

Art - Thank you to all the parents who helped make 5th grade lock-in mural a success! The doors came out great and will be a permanent artwork in the Media Center. See <http://www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com/> for pictures.

Music - On Thursday and Friday this week we are doing recorder assessments. These are an important part of their grade so it is necessary that they have their recorders for class at the end of the week. Make up times will only be given for students who are absent on that day from music.

Spanish - In Spanish we are working on ordering food in a restaurant. Students are working in groups to create a skit that includes waiter/waitresses, managers, and diners. We will start performing the role playing this week.

Library - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.



Reading/Literature TREASURES

This week we're reading, *Weslandia*, a story about a boy who is different from the kids around him. For a summer project, Wesley decides to build his own civilization. He plants a different kind of plant than those in his neighbors' gardens. He makes clothing different than that worn by the kids he knows. This week the comprehension focus is on theme. A theme is an overall message.

LITERATURE CIRCLES

Students will have some time during workshop this week to read their assigned pages and complete their quality questions/role sheets. If students are unable to complete these in class, they may need to finish it at home. The next Literature Circle discussion is on Friday, May 11th.

Language Arts

Writing Focus: Final drafts of the "Where I'm From" poems, as well as the Photo Story videos were due last **Friday, May 4th**. If students did not finish these, they must stay in for study hall this week to complete them. Today, students begin a project that focuses on how to write a friendly letter. For this project, students will write a letter to next year's fifth graders explaining to them how to succeed in fifth grade. This is an in-class project that will be due on **Friday, May 18th**.

Grammar Focus: The grammar skill for this week is on prepositions and prepositional phrases.

Math

This Thursday, 5th grade students will be taking the Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test (IAAT). Brooks will use the results of this test, along with several other factors, to help determine math placement for next year. **Students may use their calculators on the test, so please make sure your child has his/her calculator at school.**

This week, we continue working on algebra concepts and skills. Our focus this week is on representing relationships with formulas, tables and graphs. We will have a short quiz on Friday. The unit test will be next Thursday, May 17.

Students are now working on their Million Dollar project. A copy of the project guidelines is on the Math page of the 5th grade wiki. Students will have some time to work on the project in class, and they can also work on the project at home. Projects will be presented to the class on May 24.

Science

On May 15, we will be dissecting sheep eyeballs. If you would like to help out with that dissection, please let Ms. Manuel know. Class times are 5K: 10:45 - 11:25, 5P: 1:30 - 2:10 and 5M: 2:10 - 2:50.

The Body Systems research paper is **due this Thursday, May 10**.

This week, we will spend a few days learning about puberty and the reproductive system. We will cover both the male and female reproductive systems. On Wednesday, we will take a field trip to the Robert Crown Center to learn about changes that happen to the body during puberty. On Thursday, boys and girls will meet separately to discuss any questions they may have about puberty and the reproductive system.

Social Studies

This week, we will begin our study of the Civil War. We will analyze the causes and discuss the hardships on the battlefield. Students will age paper in class and write a letter from the battlefield. The interview project is due Thursday, May 17. Please plan ahead, as this project will require identifying an interview subject and then conducting the interview. Students may videotape the interview, but it is not required. The directions and a rubric are on the social studies section of the Wiki if your child has lost his or her sheet.

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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